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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/720,933

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Mahesh Rajagopalan

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EXAMINER

KIANERSI, MITRA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2145

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

10/03/2008

ELECTRONIC

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

patents@verizon.com

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/720,933	<b>Applicant(s)</b> RAJAGOPALAN ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> MITRA KIANERSI	<b>Art Unit</b> 2145	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07222004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-68 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-68 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 07222004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7/22,4/11,1/16/08-10/23,6/14/07-2/8/06,7/2/04</u> .           | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |



### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-68 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cruickshank (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0077082) and further in view Bernnan e al. (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0076027).

1. A method for initiating a collaboration between users, (abstract and [0006], lines 1-9) comprising:  
receiving information pertaining to a call to a first user placed by a second user; [0006], lines 1-9 and [0019], lines 1-6)  
sending a notification of the call to a device associated with the first user; ([0029], lines 1-8)  
receiving a response to the notification; [0006], lines 1-9 and [0019], lines 1-6)  
sending a notification of a collaboration request to a device associated with the second user based on the response; and 0006], lines 1-9 and [0019], lines 1-6)  
connecting the call based on a response to the collaboration request. ([0028], line 1 and [0029], line 18) and [0035].

Cruickshank does not disclose the called party or the second user, but Bernnan discloses a method for alerting a called party of a voice mail from a calling party via a network comprising a telephone network (Fig. 3, 14), a data network (Fig. 3, 14), and at least one gateway device or supervisory system (Fig. 3, 48) connected to both the telephone network and the data network, with one gateway device including an identifier of the called party and receiving a message including a voice mail message (section

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0021, lines 1-9; section 0035, line 1 - section 0036, line 17 section 0045, lines 1-16); and providing a second message in an instant messaging format including the called party identifier and the voice mail message to the called party via the data network (section 0042, lines 1-34; section 0044, lines 15-24; section 0045, lines 1-16; section 0047, lines 1-6). It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Cruickshank to include a second called party as taught by Bernnan. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been lead to make such a modification since a SCP can be used to receive an identifier of the calling party (a user of the system) and a voice mail message of a called party, wherein the SCP is in the telephone network and provides the capabilities of voice message forwarding.

2. Claim 2: The method of claim 1, wherein the information pertaining to the call comprises at least one of called number data, calling name data, and calling number data. ([0032] and the name of the certain user)

3. Claim 3: The method of claim 1, wherein sending a notification of the call comprises: retrieving data corresponding to the first user using the information pertaining to the call; Calls may also be addressed using the caller ID information associated with the voice message (e.g., extracted from the MP3 file) so that the user can easily perform a `Call Sender` action. [0032]

selecting a device associated with the first user to receive the notification of the call based on the data corresponding to the first user; and 0006], lines 1-9 and [0019], lines 1-6) and

providing the notification of the call to the selected device for display on the selected device.(The voice message to the user via a display capability, [0036])

4. .Claim 4: The method of claim 1, wherein the notification of the call comprises a user-selectable collaboration option. ([0006], lines 1-9 and [0019], lines 1-6)

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5. Claim 5: The method of claim 4, wherein the notification of the call is displayed on the device associated with the first user. ([0006], lines 1-9 and [0019], lines 1-6) and he voice message to the user via a display capability, [0036])

6. Claim 6: The method of claim 1, wherein sending a notification of a collaboration request comprises: providing the notification of the collaboration request to a device used to place the call for display on the device used to place the call, based on a determination that the response to the notification of the call indicates that a collaboration is requested. ([0030])

7. Claim 7: The method of claim 1, wherein sending a notification of a collaboration request comprises: retrieving data corresponding to the second user using the information pertaining to the call, based on a determination that the response to the notification of the call indicates that a collaboration is requested; [0032]  
selecting a device associated with the second user to receive the notification of the collaboration request based on the data corresponding to the second user; and providing the notification of the collaboration request to the selected device associated with the second user for display on the selected device associated with the second user. (The voice message to the user via a display capability, [0036])

8. Claim 8: The method of claim 1, wherein the notification of the collaboration request comprises user-selectable options for accepting and declining the collaboration request. Whether or not a user decides to listen to the message file, the voice message interface application may allow the user to save the information included in the vCard to an address book application. [0020]

9. Claim 9: The method of claim 1, further comprising, and prior to sending the notification of the collaboration request: launching collaboration between the first user and the second user from the perspective of the first user. [0017]

10. Claim 10: The method of claim 9, the connecting comprising: launching the collaboration between the first user and the second user from the perspective of the

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second user, based on a determination that the second user accepts the collaboration request; and connecting the call between the first user and second user. [0032] and [0033]

11. Claim 11: The method of claim 9, the connecting comprising: launching the collaboration between the first user and the second user from the perspective of the second user, based on a determination that the second user accepts the collaboration request, wherein the collaboration includes a data connection and a voice connection. . [0032] and [0033]

12. Claim 12: The method of claim 9, the connecting comprising: launching the collaboration between the first user and the second user from the perspective of the second user, based on a determination that the second user accepts the collaboration request, wherein the collaboration includes a data connection and a videoconferencing connection. [0044-Brennan]

13. Claim 13: The method of claim 9, the connecting comprising: ceasing the collaboration launched from the perspective of the first user based on a determination that the second user declines the collaboration request; and connecting the call to the first user between the first user and the second user. [0047-Brennan]

14. Claim 14: A method for initiating a collaboration between users, comprising: receiving information pertaining to a call to a first user placed by a second user; ([0006], lines 1-9 and [0019], lines 1-6)  
sending a notification of the call to a device associated with the first user; receiving a response to the notification; sending a notification of a collaboration request to a device associated with the second user based on the response; ([0029], lines 1-8)  
initiating a collaboration between the first user and the second user based on a determination that the second user accepts the collaboration request. [0017]-[0020]

15. Claims 15, 26, 38 and 51 recite the same limitations as claim 3 and are rejected by the same rational.

16. Claims 16, 27, 39 and 52 recite the same limitations as claim 4 and are rejected by the same rational

17. Claims 17, 28, 40 and 53 recite the same limitations as claim 5 and are rejected by the same rational

18. Claims 18, 29, 41 and 54 recite the same limitations as claim 6 and are rejected by the same rational

19. Claims 19, 30, 42 and 55 recite the same limitations as claim 7 and are rejected by the same rational.

20. Claims 20, 31, 43 and 56 recite the same limitations as claim 8 and are rejected by the same rational

21. Claims 21, 34, 44 and 59 recite the same limitations as claim 11 and are rejected by the same rational.

22. Claims 22, 35, 45 and 60 recite the same limitations as claim 12 and are rejected by the same rational.

23. Claims 23, 36, 46 and 61 recite the same limitations as claim 13 and are rejected by the same rational.

24. Claims 24 and 49 and 65-67, recite the same limitations as claim 1 and are rejected by the same rational.

25. Claims 25 and 50 recite the same limitations as claim 2 and are rejected by the same rational.

26. Claims 32 and 57 recite the same limitations as claim 9 and are rejected by the same rational.

27. Claims 33 and 58 recite the same limitations as claim 10 and are rejected by the same rational.



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28. Claims 37, 62-64 and 68 recite the same limitations as claim 14 and are rejected by the same rational.

29. Claim 47: An apparatus for initiating a collaboration between users, comprising: a memory having a program that receives information pertaining to a call to a first user placed by a second user, sends a notification of the call to a device associated with the first user, receives a response to the notification, sends a notification of a collaboration request to a device associated with the second user based on the response, and connects the call based on a response to the collaboration request; the processor may be adapted to monitor a synchronous call attempt from the calling party to the called party, determine at least one communication address related to the called party, drop the synchronous call attempt to the called party, allow the calling party to compose a message, and send the message to the determined communication address. As above, various particular cases may apply. For example, the processor may be adapted to determine that the synchronous call attempt to the called party is unsuccessful, which determination may be by detecting an indication from the calling party such as pushing a key or a vocal command. [0009-Bernnan]

a processor that runs the program. There is provided a computer readable medium containing computer executable code which adapts a processor for a communication system to perform this method. [0009]

Claim 48: An apparatus for initiating a collaboration between users, comprising: a memory having a program that receives information pertaining to a call to a first user placed by a second user, sends a notification of the call to a device associated with the first user, receives a response to the notification, sends a notification of a collaboration request to a device associated with the second user based on the response, and initiates a collaboration between the first user and the second user based on a determination that the second user accepts the collaboration request; As shown in FIG. 1, the SSP 16 may be loaded with software (computer executable code) from a computer readable media such as a floppy disk 24 adapting the SSP 16 to perform the functions and methods of the supervisory system 20 described. [0031-Bernnan]

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a processor that runs the program. There is provided a computer readable medium containing computer executable code which adapts a processor for a communication system to perform the method. [0009].

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mitra Kianersi whose telephone number is (571) 272-3915. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM-4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jason Cordone can be reached on (571) 272-3933. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Mitra Kianersi

Sept/11/2008

/Jason D Cardone/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2145